

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors American Literature and Composition**  
**Course A: 1620-1850**  
**Ms. Ragland**  
**Room 308**  
[Beth.Ragland@cobbk12.org](mailto:Beth.Ragland@cobbk12.org)  
<http://bragland.wikispaces.com>

**Course description:**

The survey course is designed for the college-bound student who will be taking Advanced Placement Literature or Advanced Placement Language during senior year. Students will read and examine a variety of literary, historical, and philosophical works from colonial times through modernism. Composition and grammar instruction will target advanced writing skills, including persuasion, exposition, and literary analysis. Vocabulary development will be emphasized as well. The curriculum and instructional strategies for this course are differentiated in content, pacing, process skills emphasis and expectation. This course is appropriate for students who are highly motivated, have demonstrated high achievement and possess a strong work ethic.

**Class Requirements:**

Refer to the class wiki: <http://bragland.wikispaces.com/>

**Required Textbooks:**

*Prentice Hall Literature: The American Experience\**  
*\*(We have a class set. Check out a book at your discretion)*  
Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workbook level G (unit study every two weeks)

**Summer Readings:**

Students are expected to finish the reading prior to the start of school. Bring your books to class for the first two weeks. Class discussion and formative assessments are required. The test is scheduled for August 15, 2013.

**Parallel readings:**

- 1) Nonfiction reading list (choice book from teacher approved list)
- 2) *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* by Jerome Lawrence
- 3) *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

**Fall semester Major Compositions:**

1. Persuasive essay
2. Rhetorical précis
3. Literary analysis

**Fall semester Units**

1. Beginnings: Puritans/Colonial
2. A Nation is Born
3. Romanticism (Early, Dark)
4. Transcendentalism

**Attendance and Make-up Work:**

If a student must be absent, he or she is responsible for checking the class blog to obtain any assignments. All quizzes or tests missed must be made up within one week of the assignment date to receive credit. **It is the student's responsibility to arrange time for make-up work.** See county policy.

**Late Work:**

Every assignment should be turned in on the due date. You should talk with me before/after school if you foresee a problem with completing an assignment on time. Late assignments are deducted 10 points each day and are not accepted after the 5th day for credit.

**Videos:**

We may occasionally view curriculum related films and film clips (G, PG, and PG-13 only) from the media center. A parent's signature on this syllabus indicates permission for your son or daughter to view these movies.

**Standards Based Grading Policy:**

Point values for assignments will vary based on length, complexity and effort of each assignment (i.e. not every assignment is worth 100 points).

Categories:

- 30% Reading and Literature/Reading Comprehension (includes summative assessments on literature units)
- 35% Writing and Conventions (includes essay assignments and research project)
- 5% Common formative assessments (quizzes, classwork, discussion, homework, etc.)
- 10% Vocabulary
- 20% Final Exam

**Academic Integrity:**

If a student plagiarizes or copies another's work, the student will receive a parent phone call, "U" in conduct, discipline referral, and a zero for the assignment. .

**Extra Help:**

Extra help is available by appointment.

**Technology Etiquette:**

No technology devices will be visible during class unless provided permission. Do not have cell phones on the desk or anywhere for use during class time. At times students will use cell phones for class instruction to enhance learning. Use of cell phones for personal use during class is a distraction. Unauthorized use of a cell phone will result in a parent phone call, teacher detention, and loss of privilege.

Students are expected to treat others with respect at all times, follow the rules within the Pope High School handbook, and abide by the county mandates. Tardiness and excessive absenteeism will be reported to grade-level administrator and parents and can disrupt learning.

The Pope High School English Department believes that students should uphold the high ethical standards that are expected in all classes. Your signature represents your agreement to abide by these standards. Please read the following carefully before you and your parent sign on the appropriate lines on the next page.

**I will refrain from passing or sharing information on tests and quizzes during or after class through any means.**

**I will refrain from cheating of any kind during tests and quizzes.**

**I will refrain from unauthorized sharing of work.**

**I will refrain from plagiarism.**

**I will not submit another student's work as my own for either practice or performance standards.**

**I am aware of and have read the Pope High School Academic Integrity/Honesty Policy (handbook).**

*Parents and Students,  
I am looking forward to a very successful and productive semester! Please read the documents above carefully. Please sign below indicating that you have read and understood the syllabus, classroom expectations and behavior expectations. Students, please keep the policies information in your class notebook or binder for reference.*

*Thank You,  
Ms. Beth Ragland*

Please contact Ms. Ragland by email at [beth.ragland@cobbk12.org](mailto:beth.ragland@cobbk12.org) if you have any questions or concerns throughout the semester.

**Please Complete the Google Docs student survey posted on the class website to complete registration and agreement to the policies and procedures for Honors American Literature by Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Class Website: <http://bragland.wikispaces.com>**

**If no Internet access, please sign and return to class by Friday**

-----  
Signatures indicate your agreement to the policies and procedures for American Literature.

Student name \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)      Class period \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student email \_\_\_\_\_ (please print clearly )

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email address \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent preferred contact** \_\_\_\_\_